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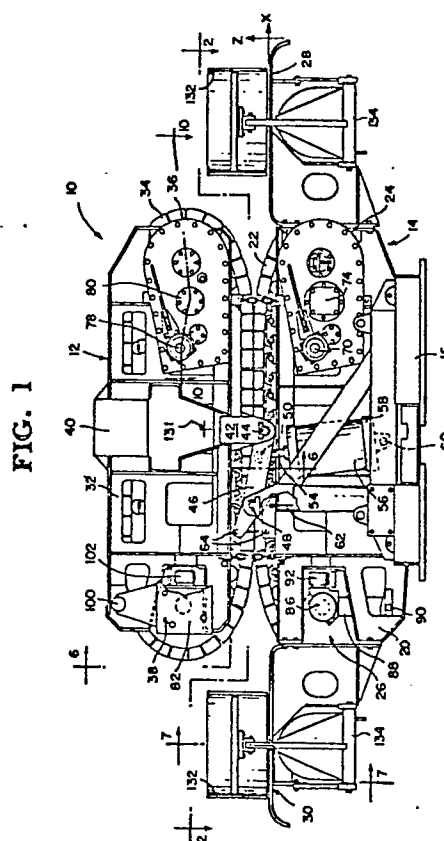
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Draw-off and hold back cable tension machine.

An improved cable tension machine increases the velocity for hauling in of cable from approximately 100 feet per minute to an excess of 700 feet per minute. The cable tension machine (10) uses a floating, semirigid track suspension to hold the track belts (22, 34) in contact with the cable. The track suspension increases the minor variation tolerance acceptable for the cable tension machine, thereby allowing rapid running of odd shapes through the cable tension machine. A more uniform cable loading force is provided to the cable without excessive force when bodies are encountered and without jamming. Basically, the cable tension machine (10) comprises upper and lower track assemblies (12, 14) positioned atop one another capable of applying a tensioning force to the cable which passes between the track assemblies (12, 14). A housing (40) holds both track assemblies in spaced relationship, allowing movement of the upper track assembly relative to the lower track assembly through a pivotable lift point (44) on the upper part of the housing (40). The lift point (44) is located to optimize performance. The housing is open on one side to allow threading of a cable between the track belt (22, 34).





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)
X	US-A-3 182 877 (D.T. SLATOR et al.) * Column 4, lines 43-75; column 5, lines 1-44; column 7, lines 36-75; column 8; column 9, lines 1-8; claim 1; figures *	1,3	B 65 H 51/14 H 02 G 1/10
A	US-A-3 285 485 (D.T. SLATOR) * Column 3, lines 54-75; column 4; column 5, lines 1-9 *	1,3	
A	US-A-2 981 454 (F.R. DICKINSON et al.) * Column 3, lines 56-75; column 4, lines 1-51; column 5, lines 42-54, column 6, lines 38-56 *	1-3	
A	FR-A-1 135 086 (SAGEM) * Whole document *	1,6	
A	US-A-2 792 930 (D. GRAHAM)		
A	US-A-3 669 329 (J.P. BLANCHET et al.)		
A	CA-A-1 096 850 (UNI-FLEX RIG CO. LTD)		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
			B 65 H F 16 L B 63 B H 02 G E 21 B B 66 D
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		12-07-1988	D HULSTER E.W.F.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	